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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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In Reply, Please Refer to
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MM 97-328

Miami, Florida

OCT 30 1964

SSCI BOX # 377-1

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MOVIMIENTO DEMOCRATA CRISTIANO
(MDC - Christian Democratic Movement)
INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA
NEUTRALITY MATTERS

MM T-1, [REDACTED]

24

[REDACTED] furnished the
following information:

LAUREANO BATISTA FALLA continues to be military leader of the MDC. This anti-CASTRO organization continues to maintain headquarters at 1732 N.W. 7th Street, and has its military headquarters located at 837 S.W. 28th Avenue, Miami, Florida. MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

On August 9, 1964, BATISTA stated he wanted to leave the following day to visit his military training camp outside the United States. BATISTA stated he planned to meet an unidentified person in the parking lot of an unidentified super-market in Miami during the night hours, to receive some home-made bombs, which previously belonged to FRANK ANTHONY STURGIS, also known as FRANK SIORINI, an American mercenary and adventurer living in Miami, Florida.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Subject to Criminal Sanctions

2/5/94

9863 RDD/82
(JFK)

ENCLOSURE

97-4110-132

MOVIMIENTO DEMOCRATA CRISTIANO (MDC)

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As of August 13, 1964, BATISTA did not leave the United States for his military training camp, or the Dominican Republic. He planned to leave on August 13th but canceled his plans for some unknown reason.

The MDC previously maintained a clandestine radio at its military headquarters, 837 S.W. 28th Avenue, Miami. This clandestine radio was recently removed and reportedly returned to its owner.

On August 17, 1964, ANGEL VEGA and CESAR GARCIA, two members of the military section of the MDC, went to Key West, Florida. The purpose of the trip was to try to locate a commercial shrimp boat to buy for the MDC. BATISTA feels that if the organization had a commercial fishing boat, money could be earned to support the organization's revolutionary activities.

At the MDC military headquarters, self-study courses in military training and theory are being given. These courses do not deal with the actual firing of weapons or the use of detonators or explosives.

During the middle of August, 1964, BATISTA was studying a number of detail maps of Cuba. Some of these maps bear the stamp "For official U.S. Government use only." These maps were obtained by BATISTA from ROBERT K. BROWN, an American adventurer, part time writer, former University of Colorado student and U.S. Army Reserve Captain. BATISTA set up a copying camera on a tripod, photographed these maps and is in the process of making a number of copies. The maps do not appear to

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be classified and are regular military type maps used by the United States Army.

On August 24, 1964, BATISTA stated he would now concentrate on raising funds for the MDC. He planned to meet a number of leading Americans for the purpose of soliciting contributions. He also planned to contact Dr. FRED CROCKETT, a Miami Dentist, and an active member in the JOHN BIRCH Society. BATISTA felt that through CROCKETT he could solicit funds from the JOHN BIRCH Society.

BATISTA was working on a 12 page memorandum designed to show the organizations needs, what could be accomplished with sufficient money and material, and requested individuals to contribute to the MDC. This memorandum was written in English and was planned by BATISTA to serve as a stimulus for money contributions from Americans.

On September 9, 1964, classes were given in the theory of demolition at the MDC military headquarters. BATISTA stated he planned to leave Miami about four days previously but he has had problems with the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), and consequently he had postponed his trip.

On September 15, 1964, BATISTA's followers at the MDC military headquarters were getting ready to ship military equipment out of the United States. They were packaging and crating miscellaneous military equipment and planned to make the shipment on September 16, 1964.

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This military equipment did not include any automatic or semi-automatic weapons. BATISTA stated a number of different types of guns were stored at another location, not identified, but they were in the process of being made ready for shipment and those guns would meet the MDC boat. BATISTA did not identify the name of the boat or its location.

The previous day, BATISTA was in possession of 85 dynamite caps and about 50 non-electrical dynamite fuses. He had two new rifles, some grenades, parachute flares, an M-14 magazine, 20 rounds of M-14 ammunition, M-14 tools and other miscellaneous military equipment. It was believed that this equipment had been pilfered by three Cubans at Fort Jackson, North Carolina, a U.S. Army Base.

BATISTA's assistant, ANGEL VEGA, was taking a car to Fort Jackson, North Carolina at sometime in the future to bring back another shipment of stolen U.S. Army material; however, VEGA had not set a date.

On September 18, 1964, BATISTA stated that he had not yet sent the shipment of military equipment out of the United States. He said that in view of the recent sinking of the Spanish freighter SIERRA ARANZAZU by Cuban exile raiders, there was considerable pressure on Cuban exiles in Florida from federal law enforcement officers. BATISTA said he had postponed the shipment and it would be made at some time in the future.

On September 18, 1964, BATISTA left the United

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States for his training camp located either in the Dominican Republic or the Bahamas. It was unknown how he left the United States, who might have gone with him, or what he took. His followers figured that he took his military equipment with him when he left and this equipment would be shipped to his military training camp.

PATRIA is a Spanish language paper published weekly in Miami, Florida.

On September 11, 1964, PATRIA contained an article stating that the MDC issued a lengthy document accusing American agencies of being led by exile movements that are split up and divided. The MDC claimed the United States government artificially creates leaders for the Cuban exile movements, persecutes independent Cuban exile organizations, and interferes in Cuban exile affairs. The MDC uses the term "check-eaters" to refer to those persons or organizations which have received financial aid or backing from the United States government.

MM T-2, another government agency which conducts intelligence investigations, on September 30, 1964 advised as follows:

A Cuban exile with excellent contacts in the Antillean Marine Shipping Corporation, on September 15, 1964, reported that BATISTA spoke with officials of the Antillean Marine Corporation about the unloading from the M.V. TITAN in the Dominican Republic of one 23' Viking class boat, equipped with twin Mercruiser engines, and a radio telephone.

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The bill of lading, dated September 15, 1964, reflected that a recreational boat was consigned to Colonel MILTON ZUBERBI, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic from JOSE GONZALEZ, 8255 S.W. 42nd Street, Miami.

On September 30, 1964, MM T-1 advised BATISTA recently returned to Miami from a trip outside of the United States.

On October 12, 1964, MM T-1 advised that ANGEL VEGA returned from Fort Jackson, North Carolina on October 10, 1964 stating he had been unable to obtain any ammunition or military equipment pilfered from Fort Jackson, North Carolina. VEGA stated the people whom he had contacted were unable to obtain the material, but he, VEGA, plans to visit Fort Jackson again at some time in the future.

On October 26, 1964, Mr. M. H. REDMON, Investigator, INS, Miami, Florida, advised that records of his office reflected BATISTA FALLA returned to the United States on September 29, 1964 aboard a Dominican CDA (Compania Dominicana Aviacion Airline). BATISTA subsequently applied for a reentry permit, stating he wanted to visit Chile, Latin America and Western Europe. He stated his reason for traveling was for "family and study."

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Miami, Florida

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Title MOVIMIENTO DEMOCRATA CRISTIANO
(MDC - Christian Democratic
Movement)

Character INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA
Reference NEUTRALITY MATTERS

above.

memorandum dated and captioned as

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